



Seeds of Memory: Community and Institutional Memory Symposium
July 27, 2024

The Lotus Education and Arts Foundation is thrilled to invite you to attend our Seeds of Memory: Community and Institutional Memory Symposium! Over the past six months, we have been working on a project initiative documenting our institutional memory through archiving and oral-history practices - Lotus@30. We have put together this symposium to situate our project within a conversation with like minded community practitioners and to offer the broader Lotus and Bloomington communities an opportunity to engage with and give feedback on the archive that has emerged from the Lotus@30 project. Our stories have been and continue to be shared stories.

We believe that this symposium will be of use and relevance to organizations that are interested in understanding the intersection between their institutional memory and the community histories in which they are embedded. Beyond simply documenting the history of the Lotus Education and Arts Foundation, we have come to better understand and appreciate the relationship between Lotus and Bloomington histories.

This event is FREE and open to the public. Please RSVP and indicate which sessions you're interested in attending!

The Seeds of Memory: Community and Institutional Memory Symposium will feature three sessions:

Session 1

'Oral-History: Methodology and Practice'

1:00-2:00 pm

In this session, you will hear from Jeremy Reed (moderator), Adriane Pontecorvo, LuAnne Holladay, and Arwen Donahue. The panel will focus on the role of oral-history in memory capture. While the link between oral-history and memory capture may seem clear, how oral-history methodologies are practiced and used can be a daunting topic to unpack. The aim is to bring

together projects focusing on the Lotus Education and Arts Foundation (Jeremy and LuAnne), WFHB Bloomington Community Radio (Adriane), and the US Holocaust Museum (Arwen) This panel features academic scholars trained and versed in ethnographic methods, a community member with an interest in memory capture work, and a professional oral-history coordinator.

Session 2

Lotus@30 Archive: Open Community Forum

2:30-3:30 pm

The second session will be an open community forum during which Jeremy Reed and LuAnne Holladay will discuss and demo the archive that has emerged out of their Lotus@30 work. The aim of this session is to solicit some preliminary feedback and input from the Lotus and Bloomington communities. While Jeremy Reed and LuAnne Holladay have taken the initiative to collate and digitize documents and collect oral histories, the resulting archive is generated from community relationships and memories. In order to make this work meaningful for Lotus as an organization and for Lotus as a member of the broader Bloomington community, this session is intended to model ongoing community engagement.

Session 3

Lotus@30 - A Conversation with LuAnne Holladay and Jeremy Reed

4:00-5:00 pm

The third session will take the form of a 'conversation with...' between Jeremy Reed and LuAnne Holladay, moderated by Arwen Donahue. The purpose of this discussion is to, in a longer and dedicated format, cover the work of Lotus@30 in detail with time for a sustained discussion about successes/challenges, anecdotes, and takeaways.

Reception + Lotus Collage @ BFA

5:15-7:00 pm @ Bloomington Fine Art Supply (207 S. Rogers St)

Come collage with materials from the Lotus Education and Arts Foundation's archives — making and remaking, playing with memories and mementoes to make new art that will be part of this year's Lotus World Music and Arts Festival. The Lotus Collage at BFA will include a reception with food, drink, and convivial company!